

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: Unknown )  
)  
Filing Date: Unknown )  
)  
Priority Date: 30 September 2000 )  
)  
Applicants: ENTWISTLE, Paul )  
)  
For: ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT STORAGE )  
SYSTEM )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director For Patents  
Box: New Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment to the enclosed application entitled "Electronic Document Storage System" claiming priority to British Patent Application No. 0024000.2 filed 30 September 2000.

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following headers and paragraph:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application claims priority to British Patent Application No. 0024000.2 filed 30 September 2000.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--**

Page 2, before the first line, insert the Header:

**--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--**

Page 3, line 8 change "re evaluate" to --re-evaluate--.

Page 4, before line 27 insert the following header:

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--**

Page 5, before line 3, add the Header:

**--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.**

Page 6, line 11, change "organisation" to --organization--.

Page 8, line 19, change "thee" to --there--; after the last line, insert the following paragraph:

--While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the details of construction and the arrangement of components without departing from the spirit and scope of this disclosure. It is understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for purposes of exemplification, but is to be limited only by the scope of the attached claim or claims, including the full range of equivalency to which each element thereof is entitled.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Amended) A method of storage of electronic documents, [characterised in that] said method includes the steps of:

[the] compilation of a list of possible storage locations for the documents within a document storage system[.];

assessing each location and allocating a weighting value to each location with respect to other locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations; [and,]

upon receipt of an electronic document, assessing at least one attribute of the document; and[.]

with reference to the attributes and weighted values of the selectable locations for storage, selecting to locate said electronic document in at least one of the storage locations.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein for each incoming document, a correlation is made against a database representative of the filing properties of the storage location of the filing system [which is] being used to store the document.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein a certain number of the storage locations with the strongest correlation values are presented for selection upon receipt of a document.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 [characterised in that if] wherein when a correlation is matched for an incoming document, that document is stored in the matching storage location automatically.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 [characterised in that] wherein if, upon analysis of an incoming document, a matching correlation is not identified such that none of the presented storage locations are relevant, the incoming document is stored in a storage location using a conventional method of document filing.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein as new documents are added into the filing system, the database of filing properties used for the

correlation and analysis of storage locations is adapted to reflect the characteristics of the documents received.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the method used is adaptive to reflect the characteristics of received documents.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 7 [characterised in that] wherein the storage location assessment occurs upon receipt of each new document.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim [7 characterised in that the] 8 wherein said storage location assessment occurs at regular time intervals.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that the] wherein said attributes of [the] said storage locations [which are] assessed are predefined by the system and/or the user.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 10 [characterised in that] wherein statistical significance values are assigned to the selected attributes.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein a companion database associated with the storage structure is provided, said database including statistically differentiating key words associated with particular storage locations and only these keywords are used in the correlation of the attributes of the incoming document and the available storage locations.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 [characterised in that] wherein the correlation and selection of [the] said storage location for the incoming document is made with respect to the information for [the] said storage locations in the companion database rather than the actual contents of the documents stored in the storage locations.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [characterised in that the] wherein said electronic documents received are e-mails.

15. (Amended) An e-mail reception and storage system, said system comprising:  
a series of storage locations, each provided to receive selected e-mails; [and characterised in that]  
the selection of a particular storage location for a received e-mail is made by assessing each location and allocating a weighting value to each location with respect to other locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations and, upon receipt of the e-mail, assessing at least one attribute of the e-mail and, with reference to the weighted values of the storage locations for storage, selecting to locate said e-mail in at least one of the storage locations.

16. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 [characterised in that the] wherein said received e-mail can be selected to be stored in more than one storage location.

17. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 [characterised in that the] wherein said weighting values and/or attributes are reviewed and if necessary revised as new e-mails are received and stored.

18. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 [characterised in that the] wherein said attributes and weighting values are stored in a companion database with which the attributes of the received e-mail is compared rather than the actual content of each of the storage locations.

**REMARKS**

Attached is the clean version of the claims and new paragraphs as required in Section 1.121(4) (ii).

The application should now be in condition for examination, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted  
HEAD, JOHNSON & KACHIGIAN

Dated: 28 August 2001

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New Header to be Inserted on Page 1, before line 1:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application claims priority to British Patent Application No.  
0024000.2 filed 30 September 2000

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

0024000.2

Header to be inserted into Page 2

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

103250-ET-03960



### Replacement Paragraphs to be Inserted into Page 3

In this manner the method and system is highly adaptive such that regular assessment of the statistical significance of the attributes of the locations is performed and the relevance of the same is adjusted for the associated databases respectively as required. Typically therefore, in practice, as new e-mails arrive to the system the attribute analysis continues to re-evaluate the statistical significance of the folder locations into which the e-mails can be filed. By performing this on going analysis so the relevance of the system is maintained to the use at any instant of usage.

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Header to be Inserted into Page 4:

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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Header to be Inserted into Page 5

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1

**Replacement Paragraph to be Inserted Into Page 6:**

Similarly, replies to and messages sent to an organization or person can be stored in accordance with the invention. For example and e-mail addressed <to :> [board@confed.org](mailto:board@confed.org) would correlate closely to the correlation string used to represent the storage location folder indicated by "Companies\ Retailers\Confederation of retailers" folder and be stored therein.

102260 "E" 9960

New Paragraph for Page 8 to be Inserted After the Last Line:

While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularity, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the details of construction and the arrangement of components without departing from the spirit and scope of this disclosure. It is understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for purposes of exemplification, but is to be limited only by the scope of the attached claim or claims, including the full range of equivalency to which each element thereof is entitled.

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## Clean Version of the Claims

1. (Amended) A method of storage of electronic documents, said method includes the steps of:

    compilation of a list of possible storage locations for the documents within a document storage system:

    assessing each location and allocating a weighting value to each location with respect to other locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations;

    upon receipt of an electronic document, assessing at least one attribute of the document; and

    with reference to the attributes and weighted values of the selectable locations for storage, selecting to locate said electronic document in at least one of the storage locations.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein for each incoming document, a correlation is made against a database representative of the filing properties of the storage location of the filing system being used to store the document.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein a certain number of the storage locations with the strongest correlation values are presented for selection upon receipt of a document.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein when a correlation is matched for an incoming document, that document is stored in the matching storage location automatically.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein if, upon analysis of an incoming document, a matching correlation is not identified such that none of the presented storage locations are relevant, the incoming document is stored in a storage location using a conventional method of document filing.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein as new documents are added into the filing system, the database of filing properties used for the correlation and analysis of storage locations is adapted to reflect the characteristics of the documents received.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the method used is adaptive to reflect the characteristics of received documents.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein the storage location assessment occurs upon receipt of each new document.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 8 wherein said storage location assessment occurs at regular time intervals.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said attributes of said storage locations assessed are predefined by the system and/or the user.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 10 wherein statistical significance values are assigned to the selected attributes.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein a companion database associated with the storage structure is provided, said database including statistically differentiating key words associated with particular storage locations and only these keywords are used in the correlation of the attributes of the incoming document and the available storage locations.

13. (Amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein the correlation and selection of said storage location for the incoming document is made with respect to the information for said storage locations in the companion database rather than the actual contents of the documents stored in the storage locations.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said electronic documents received are e-mails.

15. (Amended) An e-mail reception and storage system, said system comprising:

a series of storage locations, each provided to receive selected e-mails;  
the selection of a particular storage location for a received e-mail is made by assessing each location and allocating a weighting value to each location with respect to other locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations and, upon receipt of the e-mail, assessing at least one attribute of the e-mail and, with reference to the weighted values of the storage locations for storage, selecting to locate said e-mail in at least one of the storage locations.

16. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said received e-mail can be selected to be stored in more than one storage location.



17. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said weighting values and/or attributes are reviewed and if necessary revised as new e-mails are received and stored.

18. (Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said attributes and weighting values are stored in a companion database with which the attributes of the received e-mail is compared rather than the actual content of each of the storage locations.

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